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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Reconnaissance Office

SUBJECT : Security Procedures for NRP Study, Applied
Research and Advanced Development Projects

1. The Director of Reconnaissance, CIA referred to me your memorandum, subject as above, in which you requested that my Office conduct a survey with respect to subject and furnish you with advice as to how a more suitable security procedure might be developed.

2. The survey has been completed and has disclosed a lack of uniformity in determining at what point an NRP activity enters the [] Control System as a formal project. The CIA Reconnaissance Program has controlled research studies and developmental projects through the use of codeword designators, while utilizing the personnel and physical security criteria of the [] Control System. In some cases project designators have been formally registered in the Office of Security, CIA, at the inception of the study. The approach of SAFSP has been to control the activity under a number designation. In some cases the umbrella of an existing [] project has been utilized until DNRO approval for system development is obtained.

3. Regardless of which approach is used, Project Security Officers are tasked to employ [] Control System standards throughout the NRP in all dealings with contractors. While one program may employ codewords and another numbers, all contractors must meet [] personnel and physical security standards. Secrecy agreements are required and access lists are maintained. Under both approaches contractor resources are, in effect, placed under restrictive hold-downs. Communication of information by the contractor with personnel in Government or industry is not permitted without authorization of the responsible program representative.

NRO review(s)
completed.

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4. Neither the CIA nor the SAFSP approaches necessarily provide a complete answer in view of the broad ranging spectrum of security sensitivity presented by the research and developmental activities of the NRP. A determination as to the degree of protection to be accorded a research and developmental activity must be based upon the sensitivity of the information, e.g., vulnerability information should be placed under very restrictive hold-downs.

5. It is at the inter-departmental level that the question arises of undue restraints over problem solving exchanges between NRP project officers and between these persons and their contractors. The use of codewords and security sign-up features for research and developmental activities could preclude timely exchanges of this nature. This is especially apparent when more than one Program Director is pursuing the same line of inquiry and guidelines based upon mutual understanding have not been effectively established. Secure and effective communications between NRP project officers and between these persons and their contractors could be facilitated by adopting the following concepts:

a. The establishment of an NRP registry of all studies, applied research and advanced developmental projects which would be readily accessible to all Program Directors and the DNRO. (In accordance with the 11 August 1965 Agreement, the registry would assist in the D/NRO being kept fully and completely informed on all programs and activities undertaken as part of the NRP. It would also serve as an effective device to preclude duplication of effort on the part of a contractor holding contracts from a number of components within a single Agency, or holding contracts from a number of agencies on a specific effort.)

Information would be forwarded in memorandum form which provides a reasonably comprehensive explanation of the activity, the contractors involved, the date the contract was awarded, the estimated date of completion and appropriate security features. Any approach to a contractor for a request for proposal should be preceded by reference to the registry and coordination, where indicated, with the Program Director already involved with the contractor.

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This registry would facilitate the required communications with contractors throughout the program while ensuring that due notice is taken of existing contractor relationships and existing security considerations. By means of preliminary agreement between Program Directors, optimal communication with contractors could be achieved while properly safeguarding the security of the NRP.

b. All NRP studies, applied research and advanced developmental projects aiming toward the development of an intelligence reconnaissance system, or where the area of inquiry might compromise existing NRP projects, would be handled on a controlled access basis in accordance with [] standards.

These activities, whether identified by codeword or number, would be controlled to the greatest extent possible under established NRP projects rather than being designated as separate formal [] projects requiring separate access approval procedures. Where codewords are used under these circumstances they will be identified as R&D activities. Program Directors would maintain lists of all individuals provided access and would make the names, with pertinent biographic and clearability data, available for the recording facilities of the Office of Security, CIA.

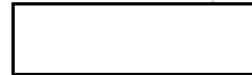
c. Compliance with personnel and physical security standards for contractor employees involved in NRP research and development would be the responsibility of the Program Director managing the activity.

d. The enforcement of strict "must know" for access to research and development efforts would be the responsibility of the appropriate Program or Project Director.

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e. Each new formal [redacted] project
codeword indicator would be established by the
DNRO with the approval of the DCI.

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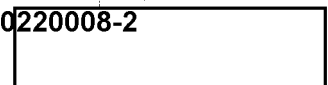
6. The proposed NRP registry is consistent with the research and developmental responsibility levied on the D/NRO in the 11 August 1965 agreement and would assist in ensuring the needed security for NRP research and developmental studies and projects. The specific guidelines set forth above would further implement the required effective security for these research and developmental efforts. My Office would be happy to discuss with your Staff any of the points contained in this memorandum with a view towards their early implementation.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

[redacted]
Director of Security

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